

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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Claims 1-6. (Previously Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) An airbag for employment in a vehicle to protect a vehicle occupant facing the airbag, the airbag comprising:

an upper bag portion (3) having an upper rear surface (3c) which cushions generally against the face of the vehicle occupant (H) as the airbag is inflated; and

291 a lower bag portion (4) joined together with the upper bag portion (3) to form the airbag (1), the lower bag portion (4) having a lower rear surface (4c) which extends rearwardly of the upper rear surface to cushion generally against an abdomen (H1) of the vehicle occupant (H),

~~wherein the lower rear surface (4c) is joined with side portions (4b,4b) with two joining lines which are respectively curved in such a manner that the lower rear face portion (4c) is more extended toward the occupant (H) than the upper rear face portion (3c), whereby the lower rear face portion (4c) approaches the abdomen (H1) of the occupant (H).~~

wherein a left end of the lower rear surface (4c) is joined with a left side portion (4b) by a left joining line including a plurality of arc shape portions (15,17,16) which have different radii and join continuously with each other, so that the left joining line is smoothly curved;

wherein a right end of the lower rear surface (4c) is joined with a right side portion (4b) by a right joining line including a plurality of arc shape portions (15,17,16) which have

different radii and join continuously with each other, so that the right joining line is smoothly curved; and

§1 wherein a lower face portion of the lower rear surface (4c) is more extended toward the occupant (H) than an upper rear face portion of the upper rear surface (3c) so that the lower face portion joined by the arc shape portions (17,17) of the lower rear surface (4c) approaches the abdomen (H1) of the occupant (H).

Claims 8 and 9. (Cancelled).

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